



**CITY OF VESTAVIA HILLS  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

ASHLEY C. CURRY  
MAYOR

BRIAN C. DAVIS  
DIRECTOR

CHRISTOPHER BRADY  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES**

**November 19, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

On Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, President Kirk McCulley called the Vestavia Park Board meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

Park Board Members present were: Kirk McCulley, President  
Mitch Bevill, Vice President  
Lyles Box

Park Board Members absent were: Earl Lawson  
David Myers

Mayor Ashley Curry Present

Council Representative Paul Head Present

Parks and Recreation Staff Members: Brian C. Davis, Director of Public Services  
Jason Burnett, Parks & Rec Superintendent  
Sandi Wilson, Programming Superintendent  
B. J. Dubose, Administrative Supervisor

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Mitch Bevill

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION – OUTGING MEMBER DAVID MYERS**

President Kirk McCulley recognized outgoing park board member David Myers with a plaque from the park board in appreciation of his service. David was not present.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

President McCulley asked for a motion to approve the September 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes. Lyles Box made a motion to approve. Paul Head seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup> WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

President McCulley asked for a motion to approve the August 23<sup>rd</sup> work session minutes. Lyles Box made a motion to approve. Paul Head seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT**

- Just had an Eagle Scout project finished at McCallum Park with a new kiosk that includes park layout and bulletin board.
- Holiday in the Hills Festivities coming up. Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> tree lighting at city hall, Dec 7<sup>th</sup> Breakfast with Santa at Rec Center Dogwood room, Dec 8<sup>th</sup> City Parade at Liberty Park.

- When we closed Wald Park pool, we moved BSL, VSA and city equipment to storage at Gold's gym. BSL now has removed their items to their own personal storage and VSA has gone through their inventory on what they want to be saved in preparation for the new pool.
- New Merkel had their annual Veteran's Day celebration to honor our senior members there at the facility.
- I notified the sports that we will need their year-end financials and signed financial control policy by Nov 30.

## **MAYORS REPORT**

The seniors who used the Lodge are now in the Dogwood Room and are pleased. Related to McCallum Park, he was called by a resident at Town Village, Mr. Duke, who is in a wheel chair. Mr. Duke showed him the split rail fencing had rotted. He thanked Brian for his public service staff for repairing the railing and clearing the hedges.

Also, there have been a lot of questions about the pool and the ballfields completion date. He said we are on schedule and should be ready on time.

## **PUBLIC SERVICES REPORT**

Brian introduced Sandi Wilson who will head up our senior citizens program beginning January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

He asked Raynor Boles to give the park board an update on the community spaces project. Raynor informed the board of the following:

Cahaba Heights- looks incredible, all netting posts are up, about half a million dollars' worth of storm piping will be in this week which will fix drainage issues. The turf will go in this winter. Lots of extra parking, some really nice fields and park will be coming on line late spring early summer. The mayor mentioned that it is really important that we keep promoting is that it is no longer known as the Cahaba Ballfields but now is the Cahaba Park.

Wald Park- Wald Park is two and a half times the size of Cahaba. So with that comes more hurdles. We all knew it was old and needed renovation but once they got into it, they realized it needed a lot more. Around the concessions stand was a spider web of wiring. With that said, they are tracking first of March. The minute something is different he will be coming to the team. They will end up gutting it. The old dugouts will be majorly cleaned up. They will cut holes in them. You'll see all the drainage. There's going to be turf around the perimeter of the infield to help drainage. With the fields themselves they are going to over seed a wintery mix probably mid-December. So that when the new growth comes up in growing season next year it will choke out that wintery mix.

Miracle Field- Same type of deal there. An athletic surface manufacturer is not going to warranty their product in Birmingham, Alabama from Thanksgiving through February. You have to have at least 4 or 5 days above 50 degrees and sunny. Everything is going to be ready. And then we'll put that surface down in March, early April. And by the end of April Miracle Field will be up and running.

Wald Park Pool- There no issues. It's coming along. We're working through any problems.

They have four playground firms identified and trying to narrow it down to one. Once we get that playground vendor on board, we have a basis of design. Then we come out and schedule several community meetings to talk about equipment and what is wanted. There will be three playgrounds at Wald Park and one at Cahaba Heights. It will all be done as one package. They won't be available March 1. Only the baseball areas, pool and rest of the complex.

You will hear more about phase III, the tennis courts soon. We got really bad pricing on that. That's because no one knew what they were getting into up on that high side. Now when you go up there, we have cut

everything down, regraded it, put in storm piping, getting it to finish grade. It will much more attractive for contractors to come work on top of it.

Mitch said he has been asked numerous times if pickle ball will be at Wald. Brian said, no. Because you can't put pickle ball courts on regulation tennis courts and have high school and middle school sanctioned events. So we are putting six indoor courts at the community building and outdoor courts at SHAC.

The mayor asked about the final preliminary plan for the community building. Per Raynor, TCU is presenting to the council on Monday where they sit. Their 95% estimate came back high. They have done some redesign work to bring it back down. The mayor said he thinks it's important for the council to look at the plan and persevere. He wants to finish it the way we planned. Raynor said the changes are not visible to the naked eye.

SHAC- Building permits through. They should see dirt moving soon. The budget came in great there.

Also, Brian reported that they are working with Ed Norton to potentially come back to the council to redo the turf at SHAC probably a year from now.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Miracle League Operations

Jason said the Miracle League Operations will fall under the parks and recreation umbrella. He recommends it be run with the help of volunteers who have run the Miracle League in the past. The Miracle League Field should be ready in April. In anticipation of this being approved, Jason has met with Mitch Cleveland who has run it for several years. He is all onboard to continue doing it. He has his volunteers, his coaches and knows how it should work. We are hoping to grow the program under our leadership and will really appreciate Mitch Cleveland and all his expertise and basically taking it and running it. He is presenting it to the board for its approval.

President McCulley asked for a motion to approve the Miracle League Operations. Mitch Bevill made a motion to approve the Miracle League Operations. Lyles Box seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Rec Fees Waived for Miracle League

Mitch stated that the park board would waive the city rec fee for the Miracle League registrants permanently. They are looking at charging \$30 per child for registration.

President McCulley asked for a motion to approve permanently waiving the residential and non-residential city parks and recreation fee for the Miracle League. Mitch Bevill made a motion to approve permanently waiving the residential and non-residential city parks and recreation fee for the Miracle League. Lyles Box seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

#### **PARK FOUNDATION REPORT**

Per Brian, they are working hard.

#### **CONCESSIONS REPORT**

Brian stated that he and Jason opened proposals and have received two. They sent out 8 to 10. After evaluating the two they have. He and Jason will present them to the park board.

## **LEAGUE REPORTS**

### **Baseball**

No representative. No report.

### **Boys' Basketball**

Per Jason, it's another record breaking year for registrations. They have increased every year. They have about 850 boys registered.

### **Girls Basketball**

Per Jason, it's another record breaking year for registrations. They have increased every year. They have about 250 girls registered. The girls have a jamboree this Saturday. The regular season games kick off first Saturday in December.

### **Cheerleading**

No representative. No report.

### **Flag Football**

Mitch stated they had a record breaking year with approximately 380 kids.

### **Tackle Football**

Per Jason, they one team left in the finals. Third grade is in the finals this Saturday.

### **Lacrosse**

Per Jason, they will be starting up in December 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Seniors**

The mayor wanted to let Sandi know there are some active seniors.

### **Soccer**

Rocky reported they are still rolling right along. Their Top Soccer season for special needs kids ended two weeks ago at 37, with 45 helpers. Still doing reading buddies with kindergarten classes. Just finished the state cup in Foley a few weeks ago. They did really well. Every team made the semi-finals. 9 of the 10 teams made the finals. 5 teams won it. They won half of the state cups in Alabama. One of their top players, Tony Shaw from Vestavia Hills, just signed with Syracuse on National signing day. They will have about 6 or 8 boys and 4 or 5 girls to sign on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Mayor's Cup.

He said he appreciates the board looking at redoing the turf in the future. He also wanted to report to the board a significant dip on SHAC 4. It's boarding on significant enough to have attention.

### **Softball**

No representative. No report.

### **Swimming**

No representative. No report.

### **Volleyball**

Paul said he heard it was a fantastic season.

### **Wrestling**

No representative. No report.

## **COMMENTS**

Citizen Kirk McCulley stated he'd received an email from one of the youth sports board requesting to have the fees for their child waived in exchange for being a member of the board. The park board has no

jurisdiction over what the sports boards may or may not do in that situation. Per Jason, if they did, the rec fee would still have to be paid. Citizen McCulley said any league in need of volunteers to please come to the board for assistance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next work session will be on Monday, December 16th at 11:30 in the city hall Executive Conference Room.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 a.m. in the city hall Executive Conference Room.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 a.m.

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**

Raynor Boles/TCM

Rocky Harmon/Vestavia Soccer